

SPECIAL CABLES.

FROM THE "HERALD'S" LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE UNION.

SPEECH BY LORD SALISBURY.

LONDON, Nov. 16. Lord Salisbury delivered an address at the annual Conference of the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations, which was opened in London yesterday.

Referring to the operations of the expedition on the north-western frontier of India, the Premier said that the splendid example of bravery, devotion, and patriotism displayed by their own forces and the native soldiers of India commanded general attention. The Earl of Elgin, the Viceroy of India, had in a moment of sudden danger and difficulty shown great courage and resolution and had acted worthily in the crisis. The charge that the British had committed a breach of faith with the tribesmen was totally unfounded. Speaking of foreign affairs, Lord Salisbury denied the statements which had been made that Britain had surrendered territory in Siam and Madagascar. Referring to matters of home interest, he said that the problem of London municipal government would not be solved until a large portion of the work of the London County Council was assigned to smaller municipalities. It was likely that legislation would be introduced to meet this difficulty.

The Conference passed a resolution in favour of a substantial increase being made in the strength of the British army, the establishment of a Royal residence in Ireland, and the adoption of remedial measures against foreign sugar and shipping boons.

WEST AFRICA.

BRITISH EXPEDITION.

LONDON, Nov. 16. It was recently announced that 1100 native carriers attached to Colonel H. P. Northcott's expedition, which is proceeding from the Gold Coast, West Africa, to the hinterland, had revolted owing to the bad treatment of the carriers.

The latest information to hand is to the effect that the demands of the carriers have been granted, and the expedition has restarted.

THE INDIAN FRONTIER.

LONDON, Nov. 16. It has been ascertained that Birmingham gunmakers supplied many of the arms with rifles. One maker admits having sent out 300 rifles and a ton of ammunition via the Persian Gulf.

The letter of Said Akbar, one of the leading tribemen, which was seized by British, includes one from the Haddaullah, the instigator of the revolt. It contains an appeal to the tribesmen, stating that "the present is the time to make a blow for Islam."

THE GREEK NAVY.

USELESS TORPEDOES.

LONDON, Nov. 16. Captain Rastropoli, an officer of the Greek navy, has been tried by court-martial for permitting useless torpedoes to be used during the recent war with Turkey. He was found guilty, and was dismissed from the service.

THE BISHOP OF BALLARAT.

LONDON, Nov. 16. Dr. Thornton, Bishop of Ballarat, who is at present in England, has declined an audience which have been offered to him, not considering these spheres where he would be specially useful.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has just died. Dr. Thornton, the vicarage of St. Matthew's, Brixton. The Bishop is considering the offer. Mrs. Thornton is in failing health.

THE QUEENSLAND ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

LONDON, Nov. 16. Mr. J. T. Byrnes, Attorney-General of Queensland, has been on a visit to Rome. He had an interview at the Vatican with Cardinal Rampolla, the Pontifical Secretary of State, and afterwards an audience with the Holiness the Pope.

SALE OF AUSTRALIAN HORSES IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, Nov. 16. At Tattersalls' stables in March, last by Mr. Leslie Bartlett, of George-street, West, Sydney, were offered for sale. The jumping mare, Barbara, with a record of 5ft. 6in. over timber, brought 100 guineas, and was sold for 80 guineas; but the champion trotting stallion, Era, by Gold Harp, from imported Violetta, was unsold.

ANTWERP WOOL SALES.

LONDON, Nov. 16. The arrangement of trotting and jumping by which the above formed part was left by Mr. Leslie Bartlett, an agent with regard to the sale of Barbara, the jumping mare, Barbara, with a record of 5ft. 6in. over timber, brought 100 guineas, and was sold for 80 guineas; but the champion trotting stallion, Era, by Gold Harp, from imported Violetta, was unsold.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

LONDON, Nov. 16. Ernest Cawill, the Australian professional champion swimmer, has taken no notice of the challenge issued on the 11th instant by J. L. McCusker, the American professional swimmer, but has issued a fresh challenge.

SWIMMING IN ENGLAND.

E. CAVILL AND MCCUSKER.

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A PROSPEROUS INDUSTRY.

LONDON, Nov. 16. The early output of England's Guinea Gold diggers, it is said, last week, would exceed a distance of 1000 miles.—Adv.

AUSTRIA AND TURKEY.

THREATENED BOMBARDMENT OF MERSINA.

THE SITUATION CRITICAL.

LONDON, Nov. 16.

The agent of the Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company at Mersina, a port of Asiatic Turkey, in the Levant, was recently expelled by the Turkish officials. An intimation was made to the Port that Baron de Calice, the Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople, would be recalled unless the officials concerned were dismissed.

No satisfactory reply having been received, the Austrian fleet threatens to bombard Mersina on Thursday.

Austria also insists that the dispute with regard to the Austrian-Oriental Railways shall be settled, and refuses to consent to the advance of £800,000 to the Imperial Ottoman Bank until its demands are satisfied.

Nov. 17.

It is expected that the Sultan of Turkey will yield to the Austrian demands until the last moment.

THE BRITISH IN EGYPT.

PROSECUTION OF A NATIVE EDITOR.

LONDON, Nov. 17.

The Egyptian police authorities have instituted a prosecution against the editor of the "Saika," a native newspaper of Cairo, for expressing the hope that the British flag would speedily be hoisted in Egypt.

THE LANDING OF A FORCE IN SHANTUNG.

LONDON, Nov. 17.

The German squadron at Kiau-chau Bay, in the province of Shantung, Northern China, from which a force has been landed for the purpose of demanding redress for the recent murders of missionaries and attacks upon missions in the province, consists of the battleship Kaiser, two second-class cruisers, and one third-class cruiser, the number of men being 1642.

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THE MIXED TRIBUNALS IN EGYPT.

LONDON, Nov. 17.

The Egyptian Government has proposed a modification of the powers of the mixed tribunals with the view of largely reducing the present control.

THE LABOUR TROUBLES IN ENGLAND.

THE LONDON BOILERMAKERS.

LONDON, Nov. 17.

The London boilermakers who lately struck work against the advice of the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Ship-builders' Association, which refused to grant strike pay, have returned to work.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

LONDON, Nov. 17.

Speaking in the French Chamber of Deputies last night General Billot, the Minister for War, stated that he would institute inquiries into a statement made by the brother of Captain Dreyfus, who was exiled from France, charging Count Estebany, the commandant of the artillery forces, with being concerned in the authorship of an incriminating document.

M. PADEREWSKI.

LONDON, Nov. 16.

In the Legislative Assembly this evening the Gaming Suppression Bill was advanced to its third reading. The Committee on Public Works reported in favour of the bill, and the bill was referred to the Standing Committee on the Banbury Water Commission Report. The debate was continued till late hour.

THE BISHOP OF PATERSON, LAING, AND BRUCE.

LONDON, Nov. 16.

It was lately announced that Mr. J. M. Bruce had purchased the business of Messrs. Patterson, Laing, and Bruce, warehousemen, of Melbourne, and was forming a limited liability company, with shares amounting to £325,000, and debenture amounting to £75,000, to carry on the business. The company is offering 40,000 5 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £25 each, equal to £200,000, and 4 per cent. first mortgage debentures amounting to £75,000, the remainder of the capital, £125,000, being in ordinary 5% shares. Mr. J. M. Bruce, the vendor, takes the whole of the ordinary shares, £215,000 in cash, and the balance (£50,000) in cash or preference shares. Sir Andrew Clarke, the Acting Agent-General for Victoria, Sir Robert Heriot, late Agent-General for Tasmania, and Mr. John Patterson, of the old firm, will be the trustees for the debenture-holders.

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THE PASTORAL INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, Nov. 16.

Several residents near Caudinon, on the Eastern railway, partook of a cordial drink, and were immediately seized with poisoning. Mrs. Dunphy died, and another woman, Mrs. Lee, and a young named Aubrey Martin are in a precarious condition. It is suspected that arsenic accidentally mixed with the cordial.

HOOMERANG BRANDY.

Two Gold Medals. Brussels Exhibition.

BRYANT AND MAY'S VESTAN.

ALL SIZE.

WATERBURY WATCHES.

UNIFORMS FOR DRESSING-QUARTERS.

The best of time at the smallest cost.—Adv.

VICTORIA.

DROWNING FATALITY.

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

A case of accidental drowning occurred yesterday afternoon at Swan Hill. Mr. C. F. Sutton, accompanied by his brother, was recovering a water case which had got adrift while being carried from the Murray River. He got out of his depth and was drowned. The deceased was the son of the Rev. J. P. Sutton, the Church of England minister, and was to have been married in a few weeks.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

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The agent of the Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company at Mersina, a port of Asiatic Turkey, in the Levant, was recently expelled by the Turkish officials. An intimation was made to the Port that Baron de Calice, the Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople, would be recalled unless the officials concerned were dismissed.

A woman named Margaret Mitchell attempted to commit suicide by drowning in the Yarra yesterday afternoon, but was rescued just in time. When presented at the City Courts today it was elicited that she was a material witness in a previous case to be shortly heard. The woman was remanded.

THE BUTCHERING TRADE.

LONDON, Nov. 16.

The employees in the butchering trade held a meeting today, which was attended by about 1000 persons. A resolution was passed, that is to say, that the amount of sweating in the butchering trade is desirable that steps be taken to bring the trade under the operation of the Wages Board of the Shop and Factories Act.

FEDERATED SEAMEN'S UNION.

LONDON, Nov. 16.

The Federated Seamen's Union is about to make an application to the Board of Conciliation to have the award of the Wages Board of the Shop and Factories Act confirmed.

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NEW SOUTH WALES PARLIAMENT.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

The President took the chair at half-past 4 o'clock.

ASSENT TO BILL.

Mr. President announced the receipt of a message from the Governor intimating that his Excellency had assented to the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill.

ANSWER TO QUESTION.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE EXCISE COUNCIL, in reply to Mr. Macintosh, said that no trace could be found of any expenditure having been incurred by the Government in connection with the payment of the salaries of sailors belonging to the American ship *Victor*, as reported in the *S. M. Herald* of March 17, or of any charge having been made to the American Government.

PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL.

This bill was read the third time, and returned to the Assembly.

TREATMENT OF INEBRIATES BILL.

Mr. CLEED brought up a bill to provide for the care and treatment of inebriates. The bill was read the first time.

CROWN LANDS BILL.

The House resolved itself into committee for further consideration of the Crown Lands Bill.

CLAUSE 2.—PROVISIONAL VALUATION OF IMPROVEMENTS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that he desired to make a statement as to the course he proposed to take in regard to clause 1, which had been eliminated by the Government. He had been in touch with the Minister of Justice, and had been advised that the bill was specially qualified, and in the other two cases, in consequence of results obtained in the trials, that the recommendations of the Department of Justice were not being carried out.

CLAUSE 3.—COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Mr. McGOOKE said that two days after the resolution had been discussed in the House that required no further consideration, the bill had been referred to the Minister of Education.

CLAUSE 4.—COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Mr. McGOOKE said that the bill had been referred to the Minister of Education, and that no further consideration had been urged on the bill.

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